

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for tracking a resolved component of a multipath signal, the method comprising:
 - de-spreading the resolved component using a locally generated code sequence being advanced by a first variable delay, to obtain an early de-spread signal;
 - de-spreading the resolved component using the locally generated code sequence being retarded by a second variable delay, to obtain a late de-spread signal; and,
 - deriving a correction signal from the early de-spread signal and the late de-spread signal to control the tracking.
2. The method of Claim 1, wherein the first and the second delays are substantially equal.
3. The method of Claim 1, wherein the first and second delays are randomly selected.
4. The method of Claim 1, wherein the first and second delays are randomly selected from a plurality of predefined values.
5. The method of Claim 1, wherein the first and the second delays are representative of a quality indicator of the multipath signal.
6. The method of Claim 1, wherein the first and the second delays are representative of a signal to noise ratio calculated for the multipath signal.

7. An arrangement for tracking a resolved component of a multipath signal, the arrangement comprises:

early shifting means for deriving an early code sequence by advancing a locally generated code sequence by a first variable delay;

first correlating means for de-spreading the resolved component using the early code sequence resulting in an early de-spread signal;

late shifting means for deriving a late code sequence by retarding the locally generated code sequence by a second variable delay;

second correlating means for de-spreading the resolved component using the late code sequence resulting in a late de-spread signal; and,

adjustment means for deriving a correction signal from the early and late de-spread signals to control the tracking.

8. The arrangement of Claim 7, wherein the first and second delays are substantially equal.

9. The arrangement of Claim 7, wherein the arrangement is a delay locked loop.

10. A rake receiver for tracking a resolved component of a multipath signal, the receiver comprising:

early shifting means for deriving an early code sequence by advancing a locally generated code sequence by a first variable delay;

first correlating means for de-spreading the resolved component using the early code sequence resulting in an early de-spread signal;

late shifting means for deriving a late code sequence by retarding the locally generated code sequence by a second variable delay;

second correlating means for de-spreading the resolved component using the late code sequence resulting in a late de-spread signal; and,

adjustment means for deriving a correction signal from the early and late de-spread signals to control the tracking.

11. The rake receiver of Claim 10, wherein the first and second delays are substantially equal.
12. An apparatus comprising:
 - a rake receiver comprising:
 - early shifting means for deriving an early code sequence by advancing a locally generated code sequence by a first variable delay;
 - first correlating means for de-spreading the resolved component using the early code sequence resulting in an early de-spread signal;
 - late shifting means for deriving a late code sequence by retarding the locally generated code sequence by a second variable delay;
 - second correlating means for de-spreading the resolved component using the late code sequence resulting in a late de-spread signal; and,
 - adjustment means for deriving a correction signal from the early and late de-spread signals to control the tracking.
13. The apparatus of Claim 12, wherein the apparatus is a cellular phone.
14. A software application for tracking a resolved component of a multipath signal, the application comprising instructions for:
 - de-spreading the resolved component using a locally generated code sequence being advanced by a first variable delay to obtain an early de-spread signal;
 - de-spreading the resolved component using the locally generated code sequence being retarded by a second variable delay to obtain a late de-spread signal; and,
 - deriving a correction signal from the early de-spread signal and the late de-spread signal to control the tracking.